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Attorney Docket No. P24196

In re application of : Nobumasa SUZUKI et al.

Serial No. : 10/659,302

Filed : September 11, 2003

**Mail Stop Non-Fee**  
Group Art Unit: 3732

For : ROD FIXING APPARATUS FOR VERTEBRA CONNECTING MEMBER

**Mail Stop Non-Fee**  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Preliminary Amendment in the above-captioned application.

Small Entity Status of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a previously filed statement.

A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.

An Information Disclosure Statement, PTO Form 1449, and references cited.

No additional fee is required.

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The fee has been calculated as shown below:

Claims After Amendment	No. Claims Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Small Entity		Other Than A Small Entity	
			Rate	Fee	Rate	Fee
Total Claims: 3	20	0	x 9=	\$0.00	x 18=	\$
Indep. Claims: 2	3	0	x 43=	\$0.00	x 86=	\$
Multiple Dependent Claims Presented			+145=	\$0.00	+290=	\$
Extension Fees for Month				\$0.00		\$
			Total:	\$0.00	Total:	\$

\*If less than 20, write 20

\*\*If less than 3, write 3

Please charge my Deposit Account No. 19-0089 in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

N/A A Check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to cover the filing/extension fee is included.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.

Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, including any required extension of time fees in any concurrent or future reply requiring a petition for extension of time for its timely submission (37 CFR 1.136)(a)(3).

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